The details of grants released to Government of Karnataka under the erstwhile Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastrcuture during the last five years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects	Amount released	No. of Projects
82.20	14	58.7	8	101.3	9	0.00	0	42.60	2

During the current financial year 2007-08, no funds have been provided under the erstwhile Sports Infrastructure Scheme.

The Central Government through the Sports Authority of India has also created the following sports infrastructure during the last five years:

(i) Providing/laying of synthetic hockey surface at Bangalore;

(ii) Construction of 100-bedded Girls Hostel at Bangalore; and

(iii) Construction of Hostel building at Medikari.

With a view to addressing the huge gap in the availability of sports infrastructure, especially at the grassroots level, the Ministry have received the in-principle approval of the Planning Commission to launch a nation-wide programme entitled 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan', which aims at providing all village and intermediate panchayats with basic sports infrastructure in a phased manner over a period of 10 years.

Opening of MEA offices

469. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to open MEA offices in Chennai and other cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of opening of such an Office in Orissa to meet the needs of the people of this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Branch Secretariates of the Ministry are functioning in Kolkata, Hyderabad and Chennai. There is a proposal to open an office in Guwahati soon.

(c) There is no proposal to open such an office in Orissa, at present.

Setting up of a task force to assist negotiations

470. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a three-member task force so that India adopts a uniform, informed position on issues like nuclear non-proliferation, missile defence and missile materials;